

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary, calling it a "news event" is unacceptable and outrageous, especially days before the presidential election takes place. Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. I don't see how the public interest will be served by showing a one sided film full of factual errors. The public interest can only be served through balance where both opposing voices are included. In all fairness, the only way I could see this act as acceptable is if Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 911" or George Butler's "Going up River: The Long War of John Kerry" is aired as well.

Sinclair's action is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation; a result of what happens when large companies control the airwaves. How does this help our democracy? Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.